	Applicati n N .	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/917,675	GOEL ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	JEAN B. FLEURANTIN	2162	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears n the c ver sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *5/17/06*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1,2,4,5,9-21,23,24,28-46,49-64 and 67-80*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None   of the:

        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of

        Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of ach sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachm nt(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This is in response to Applicant's communication 5/17/06, with respect to claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-21,

23-24 and 26-80 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection of last Office

action has been withdrawn.

However, claims 7, 8, 26, 27, 47, 48, 65 and 66 have been canceled as set forth in section 2.

a.   Claims 3, 6, 22 and 25 have been previously canceled.

b.   Claims 1-2, 4-5, 9-21, 23-24, 28-46, 49-64, 67-80 remain pending for examination.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be

unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure

consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. W. Karl

Renner (Reg. No. 41,265) on May 17, 2006.

The application has been amended as follow:

In the claims,

Please

Cancel claims 7, 8, 26, 27, 47, 48, 65 and 66.

Replace old version of claim 1 with the new version

Claim 1

        A method for performing a search for both local electronic

content and remote electronic content based on a single query, the method comprising:

        receiving a single query that includes at least one search term;

        simultaneously comparing the received search term automatically in response to the

single query with indexed electronic content that is stored on a local device to derive a first result

and comparing the received search term with electronic content that is stored on a remote device

to derive a second result, wherein the local device is a personal computing device;

combining the first result and the second result into an amalgamated result; and

displaying the amalgamated result,

wherein comparing against content stored on the local device and content stored on the

remote device is performed automatically in a default state such that the user need not pre-select

to compare the received search term with both the indexed electronic content stored on the local

device and the electronic content stored on the remote device.

Replace old version of claim 20 with the new version

Claim 20

A computer program stored on a computer readable medium

and a propagated signal for performing a search for both local electronic content and remote

electronic content based on a single query, comprising:

a receiving code segment that causes the computer to receive a single query that

includes at least one search term;

a comparing code segment that causes the computer simultaneously to compare the

received search term automatically in response to the single query with indexed electronic

content that is stored on a local device to derive a first result and to compare the received search

term with electronic content that is stored on a remote device to derive a second result, wherein

the local device is a personal computing device;

a combining code segment that causes the computer to combine the first result and the

second result into an amalgamated result; and

a displaying code segment that causes the computer to display the amalgamated result,

wherein the comparing code segment that causes the computer to compare against

content stored on the local device and content stored on the remote device causes the computer

to perform the comparison automatically in a default state such that the user need not pre-select

to cause the computer to compare the receive search term with both the indexed electronic

content stored on the local device and the electronic content stored on the remote device.

Replace old version of claim 43 with the new version

Claim 43

A system for performing a search for both local electronic

content and remote electronic content based on a single query, comprising:

means for receiving a single query that includes at least one search term;

means for simultaneously comparing the received search term automatically in response

to the single query with indexed electronic content that is stored on a local device to derive a first

result and comparing the received search term with electronic content that is stored on a remote

device to derive a second result, wherein the local device is a personal computing device;

means for combining the first result and the second result into an amalgamated result;

and

means for displaying the amalgamated result,

wherein the means for comparing against content stored on the local device and content

stored on the remote device is performed automatically in a default state such that the user need

not pre-select to compare the received search term with both the indexed electronic content

stored on the local device and the electronic content stored on the remote device.

Replace old version of claim 44 with the new version

Claim 44

A method for performing a search for both local electronic

content and remote electronic content based on a single query, the method comprising:

receiving a single query that includes at least one search term;

comparing the received search term simultaneously in response to the single query with

indexed electronic content that is stored on a local device to derive a first result and, at a

separate time, comparing the received search term with electronic content that is stored on a

remote device to derive a second result based on a single input action by a user, wherein the

local device is a personal computing device;

combining the first result and the second result into an amalgamated result; and

displaying the amalgamated result,

wherein comparing against content stored on the local device and content stored on the

remote device is performed automatically in a default state such that the user need not pre-select

to compare the received search term with both the indexed electronic content stored on the local

device and the electronic content stored on the remote device.

Replace old version of claim 62 with the new version

Claim 62

A computer program stored on a computer readable medium

and a propagated signal for performing a search for both local electronic content and remote

electronic content based on a single query, comprising:

a receiving code segment that causes the computer to receive a single query that

includes at least one search term;

a comparing code segment that causes the computer simultaneously to compare the

received search term automatically in response to the single query with indexed electronic

content that is stored on a local device to derive a first result and, at a separate time, to

compare the received search term with electronic content that is stored on a remote device to

derive a second result based on a single input action by a user, wherein the local device is a

personal computing device;

a combining code segment that causes the computer to combine the first result and the

second result into an amalgamated result; and

a displaying code segment that causes the computer to display the amalgamated result,

wherein the comparing code segment that causes the computer to compare against

content stored on the local device and content stored on the remote device causes the computer

to perform the comparison automatically in a default state such that the user need not pre-select

to cause the computer to compare the receive search term with both the indexed electronic

content stored on the local device and the electronic content stored on the remote device.

Replace old version of claim 80 with the new version

Claim 80

A system for performing a search for both local electronic

content and remote electronic content based on a single query, comprising:

means for receiving a single query that includes at least one search term;

means for simultaneously comparing the received search term automatically in response

to the single query with indexed electronic content that is stored on a local device to derive a first

result and, at a separate time, comparing the received search term with electronic content that is

stored on a remote device to derive a second result, wherein the local device is a personal

computing device;

means for combining the first result and the second result into an amalgamated result;
and

means for displaying the amalgamated result,

wherein the means for comparing against content stored on the local device and content

stored on the remote device is performed automatically in a default state such that the user need

not pre-select to compare the received search term with both the indexed electronic content

stored on the local device and the electronic content stored on the remote device.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 9-21, 23-24, 28-46, 49-64, 67-80 are allowed over the prior art of record.

With respect to claims 1, 20, 44 and 62 the claimed features "a method for performing a search for both local electronic content and remote electronic content based on a single query, the method comprising wherein comparing against content stored on the local device and content stored on the remote device is performed automatically in a default state such that the user need not pre-select to compare the received search term with both the indexed electronic content stored on the local device and the electronic content stored on the remote device" in combination with other element of the independent claims would not found anticipated or obvious over the prior art made of record. With respect to claims 43 and 80, the claimed features "a method for performing a search for both local electronic content and remote electronic content based on a single query, the method comprising wherein the means for comparing against content stored on the local device and content stored on the remote device is performed automatically in a default state such that the user need not pre-select to compare the received search term with both the indexed electronic content stored on the local device and the electronic content stored on the remote device" in combination with other element of the independent claims would not found anticipated or obvious over the prior art made of record.

The dependent claims, being definite, further limiting, and fully enabled by the specification are also allowed.

The closest prior art, Singhal; Amitabh Kumar, U.S. Patent No. 6,370,527 is directed to a method and apparatus for searching distributed networks using a plurality of search devices. Bharat; Krishna, U.S. Patent No. 6,526,440 relates to search engines that intelligently rank web pages based on a search query but fail to teach the above limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

CONTACT INFORMATION

4.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should

be directed to JEAN B. FLEURANTIN whose telephone number is 571 – 272-4035. The examiner can

normally be reached on 7:05 to 4:35.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor,

JOHN E BREENE can be reached on 571 – 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where

this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application

Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from

either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through

Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC)

at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jean Bolte Fleurantin
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100
June 02, 2006

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PRIMARY EXAMINER